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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/755,156

01/08/2001

Pierre Sauvage

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4580

7590

04/21/2005

Hewlett-Packard Company  
Intellectual Property Administration  
P.O. Box 272400  
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

WAHBA, ANDREW W

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2661

DATE MAILED: 04/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/755,156

Applicant(s)

SAUVAGE ET AL.

Examiner

Andrew W Wahba

Art Unit

2661

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 August 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 4-7 and 9-16 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Christie et al, hereinafter "Christie" (US Patent 5,926,482) in view of Longfield et al, hereinafter "Longfield" (US Patent 5,898,667).

With regard to claim 1, Christie discloses a signaling data link 100, level 1, (listening/receiving) (column 4, lines 63-64). Christie further discloses a routing label that contains a destination point code, DPC, and origination point code, OPC, (distant point code) that identify signaling points in the network (column 7, lines 9-14). Christy further discloses a point code conversion 500 that translates signaling messages using internal tables, the tables (table) would be used to systematically change designated DPCs, OPCs and CISs (column 8, lines 24-29).

Christie does not expressly disclose upon receiving a message originating from a distant point code, updating said table with the point code number of said distant point code.

Longfield discloses an interface unit 27 that broadcasts the point code (point code) along with its own interface unit identifier. Interface unit 27 will then update

Art Unit: 2661

(updating) a list (table) of received SSP (upon receiving a message) stored in interface unit 27 with the new SSP obtained from the SCP 38 (point code) (column 8, lines 6-12).

A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to employ Longfield in Christie in order to manage communication with network resources in a manner that does not burden the central processor of the signaling point (Longfield, column 2, lines 42-45). At the time the invention was made, therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Christie and Longfield so as to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

With regard to claim 2, Christie discloses a signaling message handling 310 which ensures that messages are delivered to the proper destination (configuring a primary route) according to the routing label (column 6, line 67 – column 7, line 3).

With regard to claim 3, Christie discloses discrimination 312 that determiners (signaling route set test) if a particular signaling point is the destination of the message (column 7, lines 30-37).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Christie et al, hereinafter "Christie" (US Patent 5,926,482).

With regard to claim 8, Christie discloses a routing label (message) that contains a DPC (destination address / point codes) and OPC that identify signaling points in the network (column 7, lines 9-14). Applicant notes that a point code is used to define a destination address (remarks, page 7, lines 19-20). MTP level 2 alignment is inherent for communication to occur.

### ***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments filed 08/06/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With regard to the objection to claim 7, the Office acknowledges that a preliminary amendment to correct improper multiple dependent claims was filed on 01/08/2001. Accordingly, the objection is withdrawn.

With regard to the abstract, the Office acknowledges the corrections to the abstract. Accordingly, the objection is withdrawn.

With regard to the rejection of claims 1-3 and 8 under 35 USC 112, the Office acknowledges that the term point code number is a term of art. Accordingly, the rejection is withdrawn.

With regard to the rejection of claims 1-3 under 35 USC 102, applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***


6. Claims 4-7 and 9-16 are allowed.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew W Wahba whose telephone number is (571) 272-3081. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chau T Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-3126. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew Wahba   
Patent Examiner  
April 14, 2005



CHAU NGUYEN  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600